

HANDOOK AND NEW ASHPOUND (May 1851)  
CHARLES RIVER RAILROAD  
8 Boston and New York  
17 Williamstown Mass

## HOUSE....No. 156.

---

---

### Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

---

In the Year One Thousand Eight Hundred and Fifty-  
One.

---

### AN ACT

To incorporate the Charles River Railroad Company.

*BE it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows :*

1 SECT. 1. Luther Metcalf, Jonathan P. Bishop,  
2 Noah J. Arnold, their associates and successors, are  
3 hereby made a corporation, by the name of the Charles  
4 River Railroad Company, with all the powers and  
5 privileges, and subject to all the duties, restrictions,  
6 and liabilities, contained in the forty-fourth chapter  
7 of the Revised Statutes, and in that part of the thir-  
8 ty-ninth chapter of said statutes which relates to  
9 railroad corporations, and in the public statutes which

10 have been, or may be hereafter, passed, relating to  
11 such corporations.

1     SECT. 2. Said company may locate, construct, and  
2 maintain a railroad, with one or more tracks, from  
3 some convenient point at or near the termination of  
4 the Charles River Branch Railroad, in the town of  
5 Dover, in the county of Norfolk, and passing through  
6 Medfield, Medway, North Franklin, to some conven-  
7 ient point in the northeasterly part of Bellingham.

1     SECT. 3. The capital stock of said corporation  
2 shall consist of not more than three thousand shares,  
3 the number of which shall from time to time be de-  
4 termined by the directors of said corporation, and no  
5 assessment shall be laid thereon of a greater amount,  
6 in the whole, than one hundred dollars on each share.  
7 And the said corporation may invest and hold such  
8 part thereof, in real and personal estate, as may be  
9 necessary and convenient for the purposes of their  
10 corporation.

1     SECT. 4. If the location of said railroad be not  
2 filed according to law, within two years from the pas-  
3 sage of this act, or if the said railroad shall not be  
4 completed with at least one track from the termina-  
5 tion of said Charles River Branch Railroad to the  
6 said point in Bellingham, within four years from the  
7 passage of this act, the same shall be void.

1     SECT. 5. Said company is hereby authorized to  
2 enter upon and unite their railroad by proper means  
3 with said Charles River Branch Railroad, paying  
4 therefor such a rate of toll as may mutually be agreed  
5 upon by the parties, or as the Legislature may from

6 time to time prescribe, with liberty to use the Brook-  
7 line Branch and the Boston and Worcester Railroads,  
8 in the same manner that said Charles River Branch  
9 Railroad has now a right to do.

1 SECT. 6. The said company and the said Charles  
2 River Branch Railroad, may unite their corporations,  
3 and form one joint stock company, to be known by  
4 the name of the Charles River Railroad Company,  
5 and to be controlled throughout by one management,  
6 whenever a majority in interest of each company,  
7 shall elect so to do; and said united company shall  
8 be entitled to hold a capital stock to the amount of  
9 their joint capitals, and shall be subject to all the  
10 provisions, and entitled to all the privileges contained  
11 in their respective charters.

1 SECT. 7. The Legislature may, from time to time,  
2 reduce the rate of toll, or other receipts, on said rail-  
3 road, whenever the net income thereof shall exceed  
4 ten per cent. per annum; but the toll and other re-  
5 ceipts shall not, without the consent of the company,  
6 be so reduced as to produce less than ten per cent.  
7 per annum upon the investments of said company.

1 SECT. 8. The Legislature may authorize any com-  
2 pany to enter with their railroad at any point on said  
3 road, and use the same, or any part thereof, by com-  
4 plying with such reasonable rules and regulations,  
5 and paying such tolls as said Charles River Railroad  
6 may require and prescribe, or as may be determined  
7 according to law.

1 SECT. 9. The said company shall not commence  
2 the construction of its railroad, until a certificate

3 shall have been filed in the office of the secretary of  
4 the Commonwealth, subscribed and sworn to by the  
5 president of the said company, and a majority of the  
6 directors thereof, stating that all the stock named in  
7 the charter has been subscribed by responsible per-  
8 sons, and that twenty per cent. of the par value of  
9 each share thereof, has been actually paid into the  
10 treasury of the Company.